## Miller Peninsula Property and Sequim Bay State Park Phase I - Park Vision and Initial Access Development - General Project Information

#### **INTRODUCTION**

At its November 17, 2005 meeting, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission formally identified development of a new state park at Miller Peninsula as a Centennial Plan capital development goal. The Commission intends to ask for \$12 million over the next three biennia to plan, permit, and construct basic facilities for the park. For the 2005-2007 biennium, the agency received a \$150,000 appropriation to develop public access and complete preliminary park planning tasks. Agency staff has scoped the project to satisfy four principal purposes:

- Explore a full range of potential experiences and supporting facilities suited to the Miller Peninsula property and Sequim Bay State Park
- Craft a park vision with the local/regional community that will inspire support and engage partners to help achieve it
- Develop initial public access to the park
- Survey key property boundaries

### **EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE**

Local park staff has enlisted a number of community leaders from the greater Sequim area to assist the agency during the exploratory stage of the project. This temporary committee will serve as a sounding board for agency staff and an information conduit between State Parks and interested organizations, local community members, and park stakeholders in the broader north Olympic Peninsula region. The committee is not considered a decision-making or formal advisory panel. Rather, its principal charge is to foster information exchange between the agency, potential partners, and the public.

During subsequent phases of park planning and development, the agency may wish to establish a formal park advisory committee. At that time, agency staff will disband the exploratory committee and recruit membership with broader state representation.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

To help inform public expectations, agency staff has created five "guiding principles." These principles will guide staff work throughout the park planning and development process.

*Create a park "with" the North Olympic Peninsula community* – State Parks hopes to engage local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations, businesses, and local community members to jointly plan, construct, and operate an extraordinary park that is oriented towards visitors from throughout the state.

**Build on a foundation of public participation** – State Parks will seek inspiration and counsel from the public during each step of planning. The agency planning team will foster two-way a dialogue by establishing a temporary community exploratory committee, holding public workshops, meeting with interested organizations, providing timely information, and soliciting input from individual stakeholders.

**Develop the park's niche** – The Miller Peninsula property and Sequim Bay State Park should be seen as parts of a larger network of recreation, education, and conservation opportunities on the northern Olympic Peninsula. It should seek to complement existing opportunities and otherwise enhance the region's tourism economy.

Explore the full range of possibilities – The purpose of this planning exercise is to explore a wide range of potential visitor experiences, conservation activities, and types and intensities of facilities suited to the Miller Peninsula property and Sequim Bay State Park. Subsequent planning steps will craft a park vision and narrow the spectrum of development and conservation possibilities to those the agency considers most appropriate and worthy of further study. Major planning activity is expected to culminate in preparation of a park master development plan during the 2007-09 biennium.

**Plan for financial sustainability** – Park planning will explore a full range models to finance and operate the park. This may include developing partnerships with other government agencies, tribes, non-profit organizations, foundations, and private investors in addition to employing traditional state and federal funding sources.

## PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The planning and development process outlined below describes the sequence of tasks necessary to accomplish the project purpose. Subsequent planning and development phases are also included to show how the current phase fits into the broader scope of work expected to culminate in park ribbon cutting by 2013. Project timelines and approximate costs of each phase are also included for informational purposed only. Some adjustment should be anticipated.

## Phase I – Develop Park Vision and Initial Public Access (2005-2007 Biennium)

### A. Develop Park Vision

- 1. Complete Pre-Project Activities
  - Develop project scope/budget
  - Meet with local officials and potential partners
  - Collect regional planning information
- 1. Initiate Consultation with Indian Tribes
  - Establish Tribal staff contacts
  - o Identify DAHP and GOIA Liaisons
- 2. Kick-Off Project
  - Set planning goals and expectations
  - Collect site information/data
  - o Refine scope as necessary
- 3. Establish Temporary Community Exploratory Committee
  - Engage and solicit input from community leaders during subsequent planning steps
  - Establish community information network
- 4. Hold "Hopes and Concerns" Public Workshop
  - Solicit input from existing Sequim Bay visitors (CAMIS)
  - Hold public workshop
  - o Incorporate existing regional tourism information/data
- 5. Report Progress to Commission Lands Committee

- 6. Prepare Preliminary Vision and Identify Potential Development/Conservation Elements
  - o Draft preliminary vision
  - o Identify potential park names
  - o Prepare renderings of potential development/conservation elements (consultant)
  - o Prepare financial analyses (consultant)
  - Package information for web/printing (consultant)
- 7. Hold "Vision and Potential Development/Conservation Elements" Public Workshop
  - Hold public workshop(s)
  - o Conduct extensive public/organizational outreach
- 8. Recommend Park Vision, Park Name, and Potential Development/Conservation Elements for Adoption by State Parks and Recreation Commission (January 2007)

## B. Develop Initial Public Access and Prepare Boundary Surveys

- 1. Design, permit, and construct initial park trailhead at Diamond Point Road
- 2. Improve internal park roadway system
- 3. Install park entrance sign
- 4. Complete boundary surveys in key locations

# Phase II – Prepare Park Master Development Plan/EIS and Develop Administrative Facilities (2007-2009 Biennium, \$2 million)

### A. Prepare Park Master Development Plan/Conduct Environmental Analysis

- 1. Conduct SEPA EIS Public Scoping
- 2. Prepare Thematically-Driven Conceptual Plan Alternatives
  - Incorporate approved development/conservation elements into a series of alternative conceptual plans
  - Conduct extensive public/organizational outreach
- 3. Prepare Preliminary Conceptual Plan, Schematic Site Designs, Park-Wide System Plans, and other specialized plans as necessary (Master Development Plan)
- 4. Prepare Draft EIS
- 5. Conduct public review of Draft EIS
- 6. Revise and Refine Master Development Plan and Prepare Final EIS
- 7. Prepare Final Master Development Plan for Commission Adoption
- 8. Enlist non-agency partners to prepare proposals for major development elements and/or delivery of programs and services as appropriate

## **B.** Develop Administrative Facilities (\$1.25 million)

- 1. Design, permit, and construct park maintenance/administrative area and staff housing
- 2. Design and Permit Phase-I Park Infrastructure Development (approach, internal roadways, utilities)

## Phase III – Construct Infrastructure and Develop Major Facilities (2009-2011 Biennium, \$5 million)

- 1. Construct Park Infrastructure (approach, roadways, utilities, and administrative facilities)
- 2. Design, Permit, and Construct Major Facilities and Conservation Elements with Non-Agency Partners

## Phase IV – Develop Major Facilities (2011-2013 Biennium, \$5 million)

- 1. Design, Permit, and Construct Additional Facilities and Conservation Elements with Non-Agency Partners
- 2. Park Ribbon Cutting

## MILLER PENINSULA EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE ROSTER

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